

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 7 is canceled herein.

Various of the claims are amended herein.

New claims 12-13 are added herein.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-6 and 8-13 are currently pending.

II. OBJECTION TO CLAIMS 6, 7 AND 9

Claim 6 is amended to overcome the objection.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 3, 4, 8 AND 10 UNDER 35 USC 102(E) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY HARPER

Claim 1 is amended to recite a socket for an electrical part which comprises a socket body which is mounted on a circuit board and accommodates the electrical part; and a contact pin disposed in the socket body, through which the circuit board and the electrical part are electrically connected. As recited, for example, in the amended claim 1, the socket body comprises (a) an accommodating surface portion to accommodate the electrical part and having first and second end portion sides, (b) a cover supporting member attached to the first end portion side of the accommodating surface, (c) a cover member having first and second end portion sides, the cover member rotatably attached to the cover supporting member at the first end portion side of the cover member, (d) an engaging member attached to the second end portion side of the accommodating surface portion, to engage the second end portion side of the cover member.

As recited, for example, in the amended claim 1, (i) the socket has first and second opposite sides, (ii) a height of the accommodating surface portion is approximately a same height as that of a first socket disposed adjacently to the first opposite side and as that of a second socket disposed adjacently to the second opposite side, and (iii) when a plurality of the sockets are disposed adjacently to each other, the electrical part is mountable over a plurality of accommodating surface portions of the plurality of sockets, respectively, in such a manner as to bridge the plurality of accommodating surface portions.

Support for the amendments is found, for example, on page 12, lines 10-18; page 16, lines 1-11; and page 18, line 18, through page 19, line 15, of the specification.

It is respectfully submitted that Harper does not disclose or suggest such features.

The above comments are specifically directed to claim 1. However, it is respectfully submitted that the comments would be helpful in understanding various differences of various other claims over Harper.

Please note that new claims 12-13 are added.

Claim 12 recites a plurality of sockets, each socket comprising a contact pin; and a socket body. As recited, for example, in claim 12, the socket body comprises (a) an accommodating surface portion having a same height as the accommodating surface portion of each of the other of the plurality of sockets so that, when the plurality of sockets are disposed adjacently to each other on a circuit board, an electrical part is mountable over the accommodating surface portions of the plurality of sockets, respectively, so as to bridge the plurality of accommodating surface portions, and (b) a cover member rotatably attached to the socket body and having an opened and closed position so that, when the plurality of sockets are disposed adjacently to each other on a circuit board and an electrical part is mounted over the accommodating surface portions of the plurality of sockets, respectively, so as to bridge the plurality of accommodating surface portions, and the cover member is rotated from the opened position to the closed position, the electrical part is pressed which thereby causes the electrical part to be electrically connected with the circuit board via the contact pin. Claim 13 recites somewhat similar features. See, for example, page 18, line 18, through page 19, line 15, of the specification.

It is respectfully submitted that Harper does not disclose or suggest a plurality of sockets as recited, for example, in claims 12 and 13.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

IV. REJECTION OF CLAIM 2 UNDER 35 USC 103 AS BEING UNPATENTABLE
OVER HARPER IN VIEW OF LORANGER

The comments in Section III, above, also apply here, where appropriate.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

V. REJECTION OF CLAIM 5 UNDER 35 USC 103 AS BEING UNPATENTABLE
OVER HARPER IN VIEW OF LAUB

The comments in Section III, above, also apply here, where appropriate.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

VI. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 6, 7, 9 AND 11 UNDER 35 USC 103 AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER HARPER IN VIEW OF LORANGER

The comments in Section III, above, also apply here, where appropriate.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

VII. CONCLUSION

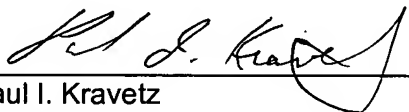
In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this response, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: December 27, 2004

By: 
Paul I. Kravetz
Registration No. 35,230

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501